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For Immediate Release:
January 19, 2010

Media Release

York Central Hospital Hosts Health Care Delegation from Shandong Province in China!

RICHMOND HILL, ON – York Central Hospital was pleased to host a delegation of representatives from Shandong Province in China who learned more about hospital facilities and services in Canada with a presentation at and about our Hospital.

The delegation is comprised of university directors, senior physicians and managers from the Ministry of Health, general hospitals, and medical universities of Shandong Province of the People's Republic of China. The tour is organized by Sino-Canada Technology Exchange Centre. The delegation is being led by Mr. Zhao Shengtian, the president of the Second Hospital of Shandong University, also the Senior Researcher of the Medical Administration Division of the Department of Health of Shandong Province.

The purpose of the visit is to study Canada's renowned health care system and relevant regulations and acts introduced by Canadian government agencies to facilitate reasonable access to health services without financial or other barriers.

During their visit to Richmond Hill, the delegation visited York Central Hospital and studied the Hospital's strategies and initiatives implemented to improve the performance of the hospital services.

While in Canada the delegation will also visit:

- the Medicine Faculty at the University of Toronto,
- The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care,
- Health Canada,
- The Public Health Agency of Canada,
- The Association of Canadian Academic Healthcare Organizations (ACAHO),
- The Canadian Medical Association
- as well as the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

"We are very pleased to have been selected as a destination for this delegation to visit," said Acting Hospital President and CEO Jo-anne Marr. "It demonstrates our commitment to *Caring to make a difference*, whether we are caring for patients or helping to educate others about our practices."

Shandong is a coastal province of eastern People's Republic of China. Shandong covers an area of more than 156,700 square kilometers with an approximate total population of 94,000,000. Shandong ranks first among the provinces in the production of a variety of products, including cotton and wheat as well as

precious metals such as gold and diamonds. It also has one of the biggest sapphire deposits in the world. In 2008, the nominal GDP for Shandong was US\$446 billion, ranking second in the country. Shandong province's health care system, especially its hospital services, is undergoing significant changes, and several reforms have been made over the past several years in order to improve the health care system of the province.

Sino-Canada Technology Exchange Center, a subsidiary of SICTEC Group Inc., is an accredited agency by the Chinese government to help coordinate international exchange programs and training programs for senior Chinese government officials and corporate managers in North America. SICTEC Group Inc. is located in Toronto, Canada in the heart of North America. It has been engaged in international development and cooperation, management consulting and international trade since its inception over a decade ago. It has a branch office in China and strategic partners in North America, South America, Europe and Australia.

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